**Fraud by Oriental Finance and Exchange Company**

2216. SHRI K. M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any compensation has been paid to the depositors till now who had been defrauded of crores of rupees in 1987 by the Oriental Finance and Exchange Company (H.O. Madras);

(b) if so, the detals thereof and if not, the reasons therefor. and

(c) whether any action has been taken against the Directors of the Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that as per their records, a large number of cases were filed by the agrieved creditors (depositors) of Oriental Finance and Exchange Company in different courts, including an insolvency petition involving Shri Sajan Varghese, Managing Partner of the said firm. The affairs of the firm were entrusted to a Receiver through a court order. RBI have no information about payment of compensation if any, made to depositors.

**विदेशी मुद्रा भण्डार**

2217. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी :** क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय भारत का विदेशी मुद्रा भण्डार कितना है तथा वस्तुओं और सेवाओं के निर्यात के माध्यम से कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की गई ;

(ख) वर्ष 1997 में निर्यात तथा आयात संबंधी माहवार आंकड़े क्या-क्या थे तथा उपरोक्त में से पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों का हिस्सा कितना था ; और

(ग) इस समस्या से छुटकारा पाने के लिए क्या-क्या प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं ?

**वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज) :** (क) 25 जुलाई, 1997 को भारत का विदेशी मुद्रा प्रारक्षित भंडार, सोने और एस०डी०आर० सहित 29.69 बिलियन अमरीकी डॉलर था । अद्यतन उपलब्ध आंकड़ों के अनुसार, वस्तुओं और सेवाओं के निर्यातों के जरिए अर्जित विदेशी मुद्रा की राशि 1995–96 के दौरान 48038 मिलियन अमरीकी डॉलर होने का अनुमान है ।

(ख) जनवरी, 1997 से जून 1997 तक पेट्रोलियम, तेल और स्नेहकों (पी०ओ० एल0) आयातों सहित निर्यातों और आयातों के अनन्तिम आंकड़े नीचे दिए गए हैं ।

(मिलियन अमरीकी डालर)

| माह | निर्यात | कुल आयात | पी.ओ.एल. आयात |
|---|---|---|---|
| जनवरी, 1997 . . . | 2913 | 3856 | 837 |
| फरवरी, 1997 . . . | 2654 | 3557 | 886 |
| मार्च, 1997 . . . | 3297 | 3464 | 855 |
| अप्रैल, 1997 . . . . | 2539 | 3032 | 678 |
| मई, 1997 . . . . | 2862 | 3211 | 716 |
| जून, 1997 . . . . | 2660 | 3106 | 665 |

(ग) निर्यात की वृद्धि में तेजी लाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा निरन्तर निर्यात संवर्द्धन उपाय किए जाते हैं । इन में निर्यात आयात प्रक्रियाओं का सरलीकरण, निर्यात ऋण पर ब्याज दरों में कमी, गुणवत्ता और प्रौद्योगिकी उन्नयन पर ध्यान केन्द्रित करना, निर्यात संवर्द्धन में राज्य सरकारों की भागीदारी और उद्योग, व्यापार और निर्यात संवर्द्धन परिषद के साथ परस्पर विचार विमर्श करना शामिल है ।

**ATMs in Banks**

2218. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMCHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Indian Banking sector has become a dumping ground for mutlinationals with the banking technologies and products like Automatic Teller machines being freely imported and installed in the Indian Banks;

(b) if so, whether Government have realised the consequences and impact on the Indian manufacturers of Automatic Teller Machines; and

(c) whether Government will take steps to protect the Indian Industry from unfair dumping by multinational Companies and the indigenously made Automatic Teller Machines are encouraged to be used by the Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Public Sector Banks in India are going in for increased automation on a continuing basis and such plans involve the provision of ATM. Import of ATMs is allowed as per Import Policy. No information of the kind envisaged in the question is available with the Government.

(b) and (c) Do Not arise.

**Benefit of addition to qqualifying srvicee in Nationalised Banks**

2219. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the benefit of addition to qualifying service is to be given in relation to, services of posts in the nationalised banks in respect of which recruitment rules have been made with the approval of the Central Government under third proviso to Regulation 26 of the relevant Pension Regulations of 1995 framed under the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act 1970 and 1980; and

(b) if so, what are the services and posts for which the recruitment rules in this regard have been made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Indian Banks' Association has reported that the benefit of addition to qualifying service is to be given in relation to service or posts for which a specialist qualification or experience in scientific, technological or professional fields is essential provided the recruitment rules in respect of said service or past which carries the benefit of additional shall be made with the approval of the Central Government as per Regulation 26 of Pension Regulations, 1995 framed under the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980. It may be further stated that the government so far as not received any such specific proposals from any of the banks.

**Loan assistance by Japan under OECF**

2220. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether Japan is extending loan assistance for various projects being implemented in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of the projects which are likely to get loan assistance out of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan during 1997-98 financial year; and